

# 6 PARK PURPOSE

## Vision

Carvers Creek State Park is the first state park in the Sandhills region of North Carolina, and is a highly valued resource that is being protected for its ecological, cultural and historic significance. Education and interpretation of these resources will encourage the value of stewardship, land conservation, and exploration in those who visit. The park also provides a regional destination for nature-based, passive recreation, which is much needed in this part of North Carolina. The following goals and objectives for the long term success of Carvers Creek State Park are outlined below:

## Goals and Objectives

### Protect natural resources

- With this ecologically diverse ecosystem, significant natural resources are still being discovered and a long-term plan is needed. Continue to map habitats and species as they are located
- Pursue the creation of a long-term fire management plan and restoration plan
- Prevent erosion, secure and protect special places, and create an interim plan

### Provide nature-based recreation

- Survey results confirm that additional trails are needed in the area
- Serve many types of park users – those from Fort Bragg, daily users, seniors, travellers, equestrians and school children all have different needs
- Attract visitors from a wide regional area

### Sustainability

- Sustainable design/green design with reference to the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) and Sustainable Sites Initiative design criteria will be pursued

### Protect cultural/historic resources

- Nationally significant historic buildings and views should be protected
- Tell the story of how Long Valley Farm came to be - from Ardnave to the Rockefellers, to the creation of a state park
- Create an interpretive plan and program for visitors
- Prepare an interim plan that maintains buildings until funding is available for renovation

### Investigate Partnerships

- Pursuing partnerships with national, state and local stakeholders will be important. An partial list of potential partners is listed below:
  - Fort Bragg/Pope Air Force Base
  - North Carolina Division of Water Quality
  - North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources



*Fire management and restoration of longleaf pine*



*Silo at Long Valley Farm*



*Ferns and pines in the Sandhills Section*

North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office  
North Carolina Department of Agriculture  
North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP)  
Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS)  
Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS)  
Harnett County North Carolina Cooperative Extension Agency  
Cumberland County North Carolina Cooperative Extension Agency  
Harnett County Historic Society  
Cumberland County Historic Society

#### Enhance revenue opportunities

- Encourage opportunities for revenue, such as classes, rentals, reunions, weddings, community garden plots, and artists-in residence, where local artists can rent structures to use as studios.
- Many people will come to visit historic resources; the gift shop could sell books, art, handmade crafts, and other items that relate to the history of Long Valley Farm.
- Books and photographs relating to the Sandhills could also be offered.

#### Acquire land to provide a contiguous park property

- Allow for a pedestrian connector trail to span the length of the study area
- A contiguous park property will offer additional recreation opportunities and a larger area for natural resource protection